

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the specification is amended. Support for the amendments may be found, for example, in subject matter of the original claims. No new matter is added. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims at least in light of the following remarks.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by Examiner Do at the interview held October 30, 2007, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicants' record of the interview.

Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 USC § 112, 1st paragraph. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

The Office Action alleges that the following claimed subject matter is not found in the specification: "the input color image data is located in a predetermined input-end gamut" and "the output color image data is located in a predetermined output-end gamut."

First, it is noted that what the apparatus claims actually recite is "input color image data which is defined for an input-end device and which is located in a predetermined input-end gamut," and "output color image data which is defined for an output-end device and which is located in a predetermined output-end gamut." It is well-settled that the claims as originally filed form part of the original disclosure. The noted subject matter is found, for example, in claim 1 as originally filed and therefore is fully supported by the original disclosure for at least that reason. Furthermore, the noted subject matter is in fact in the specification, for example, in the paragraph bridging pages 6 and 7.

Additionally, in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion in the above-noted interview, the specification is amended in the detailed description portion to include the claim language.

In view of the foregoing, the application is fully compliant with 35 USC § 112, 1st paragraph. Withdrawal of the rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

The drawings are objected to as not showing every feature specified in the claims. Specifically, the Office Action alleges that the drawings do not show features "the input color image data is located in a predetermined input-end gamut" and "the output color image data is located in a predetermined output-end gamut."

Applicants respectfully disagree: the drawings do show all claimed features. First, as noted above, what the apparatus claims actually recite is "input color image data which is defined for an input-end device and which is located in a predetermined input-end gamut," and "output color image data which is defined for an output-end device and which is located in a predetermined output-end gamut." Further, please note that one possible meaning of "gamut" is "a complete range or extent" (American Heritage College Dictionary, 4th edition).

In view of the foregoing, the noted features are represented, in one exemplary embodiment, in FIG. 2 by the block with ref. no. 20, labeled "COLOR GAMUT STORAGE REGION," and by CPU 5 and RAM/HD 10. As disclosed in the present specification at, for example, page 14, lines 7-9, the "color gamut storage region stores data of the color gamut S_m of the monitor 3 and of the color gamut S_p of the printer 4." The specification further discloses that the "CPU 5 ... convert[s] the RGB data set ... into a set of Lab data (Lin^* , ain^* , bin^*)," and that the "Lab data (Lin^* , ain^* , bin^*) exists within the color gamut S_m of the monitor 3" (page 19, lines 14-19). The specification further discloses that the "CPU 5 performs color compression to convert the Lab data set (Lin^* , ain^* , bin^*) into a set of Lab data ($Lout^*$, $aout^*$, $bout^*$). The Lab data set ($Lout^*$, $aout^*$, $bout^*$) exists within the color gamut S_p of the printer 4" (page 19, lines 20-24).

Thus, in one exemplary embodiment, "the input color image data which is defined for an input-end device" may correspond to input data set (Lin^* , ain^* , bin^*) which is "located in

a predetermined input-end gamut," i.e., within the color range S_m of the monitor 3.

Similarly, in one exemplary embodiment, "the output color image data which is defined for an output-end device" may correspond to output data set (L_{out}^* , a_{out}^* , b_{out}^*) which is "located in a predetermined output-end gamut," i.e., within the color range S_p of the printer 4. Since the CPU 5 processes the input data set (L_{in}^* , a_{in}^* , b_{in}^*) and the output data set (L_{out}^* , a_{out}^* , b_{out}^*), these data sets exist at least temporarily within the CPU 5 and/or the RAM/HD 10.

In view of the above, withdrawal of the objection to the drawing is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

William E. Curry
Registration No. 43,572

JAO:WEC/dxc

Date: November 5, 2007

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

| |
|---|
| <p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p> |
|---|